



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
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Results of a recent survey are contained in this release. You can also find it on our site at www.nass.usda.gov/pa/ and click on the Pennsylvania Publications link.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pennsylvania's Vegetable Acreage

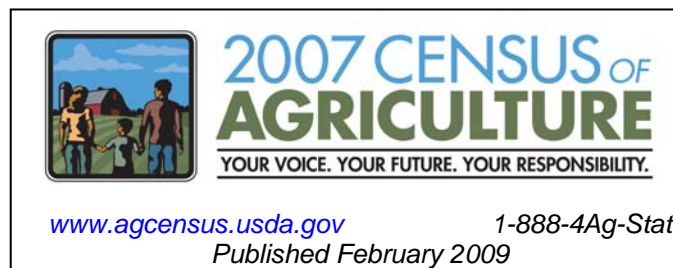
HARRISBURG, PA, July 10, 2008 --- Vegetable processors in **Pennsylvania** have contracted 10,800 acres of snap beans in 2008, up 10 percent from the 9,800 acres contracted in 2007, according to the Pennsylvania Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Pennsylvania's forecasts based on the 2008 July Fresh Market Vegetable Survey indicate a 6 percent decrease in harvested acreage for fresh market sweet corn. Fresh market sweet corn acres for harvest are forecast at 13,400, down from the 14,200 acres harvested in 2007.

United States **processors** have contracted 1.20 million acres to be planted to the nation's five major vegetable crops (snap beans, sweet corn, cucumbers for pickles, green peas, and tomatoes). This is down slightly from last year. Acreage increases for sweet corn, cucumbers for pickles, and green peas more than offset declines in snap beans and tomatoes. Green pea contracted production, at 426,830 tons, was down 2 percent from 2007. Contracted tomato production is forecast at 12.2 million tons, down 3 percent from 2007.

At the United States level, prospective acreage for harvest of 11 selected **fresh market vegetables** during the summer quarter in the major producing states is forecast to be 282,400 acres, down 6 percent from last year. Acreage declines in snap beans, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, sweet corn, head lettuce, and tomatoes more than offset acreage increases in carrots and celery. Cucumbers and bell peppers harvested area remains unchanged. Area forecast for melon harvest is 109,900 acres, down 8 percent from last year. Cantaloup area is forecast at 34,000 acres, 7 percent below 2007. Honeydew area, at 13,000 acres, is down 6 percent from last year. Watermelon area, at 62,900 acres, is 9 percent below a year ago.

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